

REMARKS

The present application is a division of copending parent Application No. 09/982,622, filed on October 18, 2001, which claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 60/301,978, filed June 28, 2001. Claims 1-4 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Claims 7 and 8 have been amended. Thus, Claims 5-8 are presented for examination, of which Claims 5, 7, and 8 are in independent form.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present divisional application are respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

The information listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 was cited in the parent of the present divisional application, Application No. 09/982,622, and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. The Examiner is respectfully directed to the files of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for review of those documents. (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) and MPEP § 609.) Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that the listed information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portions of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and returning a copy of same to Applicants.

CONCLUSION

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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